

7-27-12

This is a public comment for the Wright Petition (CC docket # 96-128).

Received & Inspected

AUG 13 2012

FCC Mail Room

Chairman Julius Genachowski

I am one of the prisoners who was sent to the Michigan D.O.C. by the Pennsylvania D.O.C. of corrections, due to overcrowding.

During that time I was able to call from Michigan to Pennsylvania for a dollar-eighty per call, for 15 minutes. Now that we're back in Pennsylvania, it cost me five dollars and twenty cent to call from Allentown Pa. to Philadelphia Pa., so instead of getting the six calls I was getting in Michigan for ten dollars, now I only get one in a half.

The impact of the cost of phone calls, have crippled me. I am no longer able to speak to my family and love ones, because I can't afford to purchase phone time, living mostly off of prison employment and my family can't afford to allow me to call collect, during these hard times. I can only afford to speak to my family every other month.

Now is it, I can make a phone call from Muskegon Michigan for a \$ 1.80 for 15 minutes to Philadelphia Pa., but the price is almost triple that price from Allentown Pa. to Phila., Pa. if you could answer this question for me, it would be greatly appreciated.

Respectfully  
DQ6090 Keita Brisson

THIS IS A PUBLIC COMMENT FOR THE  
WRIGHT PETITION (CC DOCKET #96-128)

*Toby R. Davis #234179*  
Thumb Correctional Facility  
3225 John Conley Drive  
Lapeer, Michigan 48446

Received & Inspected

AUG 13 2012

FCC Mail Room

Chairman Julius Genachowski  
Public Comment  
445 12th Street SW  
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Genachowski,

I am writing this letter in support of the Wright Petition to relay to you how the high costs of the telephone service in the Michigan Department of Corrections (MDOC) is affecting me and my family.

Being that I am incarcerated I have no real source of income. Some prisoners make about \$12 a month on their prison work details which is barely enough for a person to purchase the hygiene product needed to make it through a month. After purchasing these products there certainly is nothing left to put the mandatory minimum \$10 on the telephone to talk to family and friends.

As for my family, the high costs affect them as they are not able to pay the inflated phone bills. This leads to less calls a month and fewer opportunities to communicate and rebuild family bonds.

Prison is supposed to be about rehabilitation and rebuilding family bonds that was torn apart by incarceration. The high price of phone calls is affecting this communication as it restricts the amount of communication a person can have with their family without affecting the family member's budget with a high phone bill.

If prison phone calls are reduce even back to the .10¢ a minute that they were before the service was switched from Sprint to Embark this would be more affordable and reasonable.

When dealing with the phone contracts prisoners and their families are customers. The current inflation in the price of the phone calls was not done with thought for the customers, but it was done to benefit the phone company and the MDOC at the customers' expense.

Respectfully submitted,

*Toby R. Davis*

"THIS IS A PUBLIC COMMENT FOR THE WRIGHT PETITION (CC DOCKET #96-128)."

IVAN ALLEN DOC# HQ-4425  
SCI-ALBION  
10745 ROUTE 18  
ALBION, PA 16475-0002

CHAIRMAN JULIUS GENACHOWSKI  
FEDERAL COMMUNICATION COMMISSION  
PUBLIC COMMENTS  
445 12th STREET, SW  
WASHINGTON, DC 20554

*Received & Inspected*

*AUG 13 2012*

*FCC Mail Room*

Dear Chairman Genachowski,

I forward this letter to the Federal Communication Commission on behalf of a public notice addressing direct issues and concerns involving outrageous and unreasonable costs of inmates phone calls.

I am PHILADELPHIA native currently serving a prison term at SCI-Albion which is located in the north-western Pennsylvania, a short distance from Erie county. The estimated traveling distance between Albion and Philly is about 12-14 hour round trip.

I have been faced with the discomfort of being deprived a reasonable means of communication with relatives. At this particular moment, the going rate per phone call is about \$5.50 for one 15 minute call and vary with collect calls.

It is obviously the Department of Correction duty to provide the best available treatment and rehabilitation to all inmates has been compromise, and has caused a devastating impact and burden on not only my recovery but my family is suffering due to my injustice as well.

"How can one change or correct themselves if one of the most basic qualities and requirements of human development is being presented as challenge due to avaricious capitalist?"

FACT: "In 2010 Pennsylvania inmates had been shipped to out of state facility in Michigan, due to uncertain reason without all the proper facts. And going rate per phone call was \$1.86 to any where in the UNITED STATES."

I ask that this Committee and Chairman understand that I voice my concerns for not only on the behalf of my struggles but instead for everyone trying overcome opposition because "WE ALL ARE DOING TIME WHETHER YOU BELIEVE YOU HAVE YOUR FREEDOM OR NOT."

I THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME AND PATIENCE ON THE MATTER

SINCERELY,

IVAN ALLEN



DATE:

8-6-12

Received & Inspected

AUG 13 2012

FCC Mail Room

CHAIRMAN JULIUS GENACHOWSKI  
FEDERAL COMMUNICATION COMMISSION  
PUBLIC COMMENTS  
445 12th STREET, SW  
WASHINGTON, DC 20554

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I THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME AND PATIENCE ON THE MATTER

SINCERELY,

DALLAS BULLOCK

DATE: 8/6/12

*Mr. Dallas Bullock*

This is a public comment for the Wright Petition (CC Docket-#96-128)

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Chairman Julius Genachowski  
Federal Communications Commission  
Public Comments  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20554

Received & Inspected  
AUG 13 2012  
FCC Mail Room

Dear Chairman Genachowski:

I am writing to ask that you consider the Wright Petition that I understand would put a cap on inmate telephone rates.

I have a loved one who is currently incarcerated in the Michigan Department of Corrections (MDOC) and in order to speak with this person on the telephone I am charged outrageous rates. It is my understanding that the telephone provider, Public Communication Services (PCS) charges \$0.05 per minute to provide the actual inmate telephone service, and an additional \$0.15 is added to support a "special fund" created by PCS to generate additional profits for themselves and the MDOC.

This predatory telephone provider collects 30% of the money generated for this fund. They actually make more money from this fund than from providing the actual telephone service. For its part, the MDOC claims it needs this extra money to plug holes in the state's prison budget. Shouldn't that budget funding come through taxes equally spread across the entire tax base? It seems prisoners and families are being permitted to maintain their relationships through telephone calls only if they make a contribution to the MDOC operating budget. Their option is to not use the phone.

Excessive phone fees not only unfairly burden low-income families but also undermine the re-entry and rehabilitation efforts trumpeted by the MDOC. Taxpayers should not have to subsidize prisoner phone calls, but neither should the state and predatory phone companies make millions of dollars on the backs of some of the state's poorest people. This fund is generating over \$9 million annually. Keep in mind, this fund has nothing to do with the necessary cost of providing the telephone service; it's strictly pure profit and greed.

It seems the main function of our FCC is to protect consumers from predatory behavior, and if this doesn't qualify for that protection, then I don't know what would. Please cap these rates and do the right thing.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be a stylized name, possibly "Julius Genachowski", written over a horizontal line.

John W Ussery, 1424391  
Eastham Unit  
2665 Prison Rd. 1  
Lovelady, TX 75851

Received & Inspected

AUG 13 2012

FCC Mail Room

Aug. 4, 2012

Chairman Julius Genachowski  
Federal Communications Commission  
Public Comments  
445 12th Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20554

Re: Public comment for the Wright  
Petition (CC Docket #96-128)

Dear Chairman Genachowski:

I'll not take much of your time as I'm sure you are aware of the high prices we (My family, friends, and my self) are having to pay just to talk, and I'm sure you're aware that the cost to provide this service doesn't come close or compair to what's being charged.

I'm 67 years old, have a brother living in Seattle, who's four years older than I. He's living on social security; neither one of us can really afford these prices. But TDCJ keeps offering more minutes, why? because they're not reaching their desired revenue. We can afford to call at these prices? what good will more minutes do?

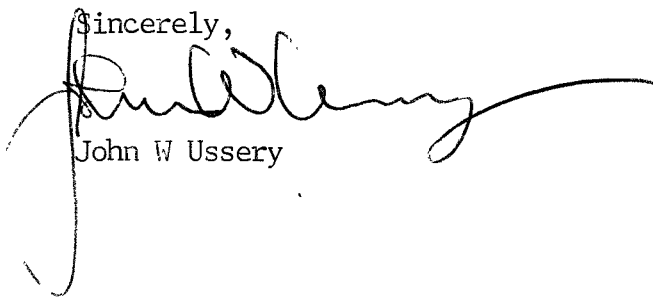
I understand wanting to make a profit, but these prices are only achievable under a "Monopoly" you cretianly could get these peices in a free-market. I'm sure you already know that Texas/TDCJ doen't accept the lowest bid.

These high prices hurt families, and if staying in touch is such a positive for an inmate, then please help it not be all about the money.

It's tough enough being in prison without being able to speak with family and other loved ones because of thses prices.

I thank you for your time and the job you do, and pray you'll have a closer look and do something to get a grip on the prices. They are way over the top and don't even compair to what a civilian has to pay...not even close!

Sincerely,

  
John W Ussery

Received & Inspected

AUG 13 2012

FCC Mail Room

DEAR HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENSE CENTER, WORKING NARRATIVES & CENTER  
FOR MEDIA JUSTICE,

I'M A INMATE AT NORTH BRANCH CORRECTION  
INSTITUTION. PHONE CALL ARE \$10.00 FOR 30 MINUTES, THIS HAS  
ISOLATED ME FROM MY FAMILY. MY FAMILY LIVE 3 AND A HALF  
HOURS AWAY FROM THIS PRISON, I BEEN HOUSE IN THIS  
PRISON FOR ALMOST 5 YEAR AND I ONLY HAD 2 VISIT. THE  
PHONE IS REALLY MY ONLY WAY TO COMMUNICATE WITH MY  
LOVE ONES, THE COST IS TO BRIGHT TO MAINTAIN A CONNECTIC  
TO MY FAMILY

SINCERELY,  
Tariq Malik  
306-0176  
TARIQ MALIK #306-176  
N.B.C.I  
14100 McMULLEN HWY S.W  
CUMBERLAND MS 39502

This is a public comment for the Wright Petition (CC Docket 96-128)

Received & Inspected

Federal Communications Commission.

AUG 13 2012

FCC Mail Room

My name is Joseph Powell, and I have experienced exceptional grief because of the high cost of phone calls from county jails and prisons.

The exorbitant cost of these phones has severely affected my relationship with my family and loved ones. Because of the high cost of calls I can seldom call. Long periods of time between the times I can call has taken away the close family relationship I once had. Because of this I feel alone in my struggles.

The high cost of these phone systems has also severely hampered my ability to prepare for my defense in legal cases, or to be able to communicate with my attorney.

The cost of these phones is severely affecting my communication with the outside world to the point were I almost have none at all.

This is very depressing and I have a very hard time because of the outrageous cost of these phones. Please Help

Joseph S. Powell  
515 S Liberty St  
Jackson Tenn 38301



This is a public comment for the Wright Petition (CC Docket-#96-128)

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Chairman Julius Genachowski  
Federal Communications Commission  
Public Comments  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20554

Received & inspected  
AUG 13 2012  
FCC Mail Room

Dear Chairman Genachowski:

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This predatory telephone provider collects 30% of the money generated for this fund. They actually make more money from this fund than from providing the actual telephone service. For its part, the MDOC claims it needs this extra money to plug holes in the state's prison budget. Shouldn't that budget funding come through taxes equally spread across the entire tax base? It seems prisoners and families are being permitted to maintain their relationships through telephone calls only if they make a contribution to the MDOC operating budget. Their option is to not use the phone.

Excessive phone fees not only unfairly burden low-income families but also undermine the re-entry and rehabilitation efforts trumpeted by the MDOC. Taxpayers should not have to subsidize prisoner phone calls, but neither should the state and predatory phone companies make millions of dollars on the backs of some of the state's poorest people. This fund is generating over \$9 million annually. Keep in mind, this fund has nothing to do with the necessary cost of providing the telephone service; it's strictly pure profit and greed.

It seems the main function of our FCC is to protect consumers from predatory behavior, and if this doesn't qualify for that protection, then I don't know what would. Please cap these rates and do the right thing.

Sincerely,



AUG 13 2012

FCC Mail Room

8-2-12

SRCI

David Ratashak

SID #17230114

777 Stanton Blvd

Ontario, Oregon 97914

This is a public comment for the  
Wright Project (cc Docket #96-128)

Dear Chairman Genachowski,

Sir, I would like to comment on  
the high cost of phone calls here  
in the State of Oregon where I am  
currently incarcerated. I am at the  
Snake River Correctional Institute in  
Ontario, Oregon an hour west of Boise,  
Idaho.

SRCI (Snake River Correctional Institute)  
is about a seven hour drive from my  
home, Gresham, Oregon (Gresham borders the  
east side of Portland, Oregon). This distance  
means that I only get a visit from  
my wife once a year and that visit  
is a financial hardship for my wife.

I do get to call my wife and my  
son. One thirty minute call cost my wife

3

minute call. For SRCI where I am, it is \$4.80 for a thirty minute call because of our distance from the majority of Oregon's population.

Now for those who were having to call at long distance prices this change has been an improvement. Their calls have dropped from approximately \$25.00 for a half hour call to \$4.80 for the same call.

However, the majority of Oregon's prisons are within local call pricing and the majority of Oregon inmates have been adversely affected by this so called improvement in pricing.

There is absolutely no excuse for these prices, previously and current, with today's technology even with the monitoring and recording.

The contract with the previous phone service used by the ODOC ended June 30, 2012 and the new service began on July 1, 2012. The rumor has it that it was the ODOC who dictated the new pricing and not the phone service company.

5

I have ten more years to go on my sentence and with the economy as it is I am very afraid that communicating with my loved ones will become even harder and maybe even impossible by phone.

Sincerely,

David Patashak

I am one of the lucky ones.

Received & inspected

AUG 13 2012

FCC Mail Room

Chairman Genachowski  
Federal Communications Commission  
Public Comments  
445 12th Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20554

Re: "This is Public comment for the Wright Petition (CC Docket #96-128)."  
Subject: Prison Phone Justice Campaign

Dear Chairman Genachowski,

I have a friend who is presently incarcerated in a Pennsylvania Department of Corrections Facility.

I am unable to visit him because of health issues, and, the distance to travel. The only option I have to communicate with him is by telephone. I am a senior citizen whose only income is social security benefits and a small pension, and therefore adversely affected by the high cost of prison phone calls.

The cost of a 15 min. phone call costs me \$11.00 plus \$1.96 for federal tax and .91 for state tax....a total of \$13.87!

I am sure there are other families and friends who live out of state, who also cannot afford to pay these high costs for phone calls.

It is a great injustice to us and to our loved ones.....these prices are not only very unfair, but an absolute outrage!

This fosters separation from support systems....an invaluable and essential requisite by the inmates in these institutions.

It is time for the Federal Communication Commission (FCC) to take action and intervene on our behalf, and reduce and cap the high rates charged by the phone companies who provide service to prisons and jails.

I have enclosed a copy of my most recent phone bill from GLOBAL TEL\*LINK (GTL) for your attention.

I, all of us, who have loved ones in the Pennsylvania Department of Corrections Facilities, will greatly appreciate your assistance in accomplishing our goal.

*Cherry Marshall*

CHERRY MARSHALL  
540 CRANBURY ROAD  
APT. 340  
EAST BRUNSWICK, NJ 08816



# GLOBAL TEL\*LINK

PO BOX 2827

MOBILE, AL 36652-2827

ACCOUNT NUMBER:6351-0000011854 INVOICE NUMBER:178966-6351

PAGE: 3

BILLING PERIOD:05/26/12-06/25/12

Call Detail for:(732) 387-8156

Date	Time	Type	From Number	City & State	To Number	City & State	Minutes	Cost
06/15/12	19:16P	D	732-387-8156	SOUTHRIVER NJ	814-756-3826	ALBION PA	15.0	11.00
Total for:(732) 387-8156							1 Calls	15.0 11.00

THIS IS A PUBLIC COMMENT FOR THE WRIGHT PETITION  
(CC DOCKET NUMBER (96-128))

Mr. Ernest Francis 176318  
Cheshire, Correctional Institution  
900 Highland Ave  
Cheshire, Ct. 06410

Received & Inspected

AUG 13 2012

FCC Mail Room

8/2/2012

Chairman Julius Genachowski  
Federal Communication Commission  
Public Comment  
445 12th Street, SW  
Washington, D.C 20554

Dear Chairman Genachowski,

Good day, my name is Ernest Francis and I am a prisoner at the Cheshire Correctional Institution in Cheshire, Connecticut. This communication is in regards to the Wright petition (CC docket Number 96-128). With respect to the foregoing, the Connecticut Department of Corrections utilizes a phone company by the name of Securus prior to the Ct D.O.C awarding Securus this contract they utilized Global Tel Link. What all these companies have in common is that they all charge an excess amount for us to make contact with our families.

Securus presently charges .34 a minute for local and interstate calls pre-paid are .24 a minute. The high price of these calls have placed a barrier between me and my family. My mother who has grown sick since my incarceration has had her phone blocked because she was unable to keep up with the high costs of the phone bill. My wife works part time and cannot afford to take my calls and feed the family. This has resulted in me growing distant from my family.

The inability to communicate with my loved ones has caused me to become increasingly distraught. The phone companies appear to have a monopoly on prison phone calls. Connecticut made an attempt to lower costs of prisoner phone calls when it enacted Connecticut General Statutes 18-81(s) Pilot Program for Debit Account Telephone System. This program was supposed to allow prisoners to pay for their own calls utilizing a debit card.

However, when the Department of Corrections realized that it would be more lucrative for them to utilize companies like Global Tel Link and Securus, they immediately entered into contracts with these companies in order to obtain large kick backs.

Chairman Genachowski

Page 2

8/2/12

Our only hope of reducing our phone rates and increasing family ties is for the F.C.C to change the rates of the phone calls for local and long distance. There is no sound reasoning for these rates. These rates only serve one purpose and that is to collect from the suffering of family members of prisoners.

Thank you for your time in this matter in the interim I await your response.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature, possibly reading "J. R.", is written above a horizontal line.